Monograph vs. Serial – comparison

Note the application of RDA serial instructions for publications of limited-duration activities stated in [**RDA 1.1.3**](http://access.rdatoolkit.org/document.php?id=rdachp1&target=rda1-399) .

**1. Frequency of publication**

* + If the resource has a stated frequency of publication (in the title proper, in the preface, etc.), catalog as a serial.
* If the resource is published in new editions, catalog as a serial if the frequency of the editions is one to two years; give greater consideration to continuing to catalog as monographs if the editions are published three or more years apart.

2. **Presence and type of numbering.** Although the presence of numbering is no longer part of the definition of a serial, most serials except for unnumbered monographic series will have numeric, alphabetic, and/or chronological designations.

* **If the resource has a numeric/alphabetic** (e.g., volume 1; tome 3; Heft A) or chronological designation (e.g., 2001; June 2002; 2002-1) in the title proper or elsewhere in the resource and it is likely that the resource doesn't have a predetermined conclusion, catalog as a serial.
* **If the resource has acquired a numeric, alphabetic, or chronological designation after the first issue**, recatalog as a serial.
* **If the resource is published in frequent editions, it must have a designation (e.g., date, numeric edition statement) that could be used as numbering in order to be cataloged as a serial.**

**3. Likelihood of no predetermined conclusion. If the resource indicates that there is no predetermined conclusion, catalog as a serial. However, this may require some investigation!**

* **The title proper implies continuing publication.** If the title proper includes words that imply continuing publication (e.g., "Advances in ...;" "Developments in ...;" "Progress in ..."), catalog as a serial. If the issues also have analyzable titles, analyze the issues.
* **A subscription can be placed** for the resource.